Rama Varmha Tampuran.—It would be about one and a half or two years.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—Did not the Government vest the power of collecting dues with these Municipalities by a notification in the year 1911 ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I do not remember exactly whether there was a notification or not. I know that there was doubt about the matter and there was a good deal of correspondence about it two years ago and as a result of which a further order was issued two years ago that these jetties will be considered as Municipal Jetties for the purpose of collecting the landing dues.

Mr. Paul Mampilli.—I have taken a copy of that notification in connection with a case. Will the Government please verify it ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran.—I think there might be an order in 1911 ; that was found defective and it was rectified. There was a good deal of correspondence in the matter and I know a definite order was issued two years back.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—May I know whether the Government has noted the point that this new levy by the Municipalities on boats is an addition to the P. W. D. exactions ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is an addition.

Mr. P. Krishna Menon.—Were not the ferry jetties at Mattancheri and Ernakulam originally constructed by the then Town Councils or Municipalities ?

Rama Varmha Tampuran—I want notice.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—Have not all these levies in combination worked out some hardship to the boat-owners and that taxation is in a way disproportionate ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—It is a matter of opinion. I do not think that Government think that there is undue taxation.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—At least in regard to the kind reduction of the license fee. I think that the point is receiving the attention of the Government.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—As I told you it is a matter of opinion. I will consider it.

Inspection fee of boats.

209. **Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.**—With reference to Question No. 33, dated 31st July 1933, regarding want of gradation in the inspection fee of boats, will the Government be pleased to state how it is justifiable to tax a boat of two tons capacity and 99 tons capacity with the same standard of inspection fee, namely Rs. 50 and whether it is impossible to work out a proportional levy in cases ranging from 2 tons to 99 tons ?

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Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—There is already a gradation in the scale of inspection fees for boats as given below:—

			Rs.
Boats of sizes less than	100 tons		50 per annum.
Boats of sizes between	100—200	,,	80 ,,
,,	200—400	,,	100 ,,
,,	400—800	,,	120 ,,

Government do not consider that any further sub-division of the sizes of boats for the purpose of levying inspection fees is necessary.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—I think the assurance of the other day stands ?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon.—Yes.

Mr. G. Sankara Kurup—appointment as Assistant Professor of Malayalam.

210. Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) the qualification of Mr. Sankara Kurup who has been appointed Assistant Professor of Malayalam in the Maharaja's College ;

(2) whether there are not Pandits with better qualifications or more service than Mr. Kurup in the department ;

(3) what are the special reasons for appointing him to this post in preference to others in the service ?

Mr. I. N. Menon.—(1) The Vidwan examination of Madras University in the first class, the State Pandits' examination, the Higher examination of Travancore. He is also the author of several notable books in prose and verse.

(2) There are no Pandits with better qualifications than Mr. Kurup or even with the same qualifications, but there are Pandits with more service in the department.

(3) He is the best, taking everything into consideration.

Preaudit of bills—delay in the Comptroller's Office.

211. Mr. K. Ayyappan.—Will the Government be pleased to give the number of bills kept more than (1) one month (2) two months (3) three months and (4) six months for preaudit in the Comptroller's Office this year ?

Mr. P. V. Subramania Ayyar.—Number of bills kept for more than one month 2.

Number of bills kept for more than	two months	2.
do	three months	nil.
do	six months	nil.

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